



**First Lady launches New Agricultural Technology And Innovation Centre At The University of Nairobi**  
 First Lady Rachel Ruto has officially launched a new state-of-art agricultural technology and innovation Centre at the University of Nairobi. It was a day of excitement and fanfare at the UoN's College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences (CAVS) located at Upper Kabete in Nairobi as captains and chieftains of industry and commerce joined government officials

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**NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONFERENCE, 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ROADSHOW**  
*Gala Dinner*  
 WHERE: TWO RIVERS MALL - NAIROBI  
 WHEN: 17-21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025

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**News>> Kenya's Water Crisis Puts Economy At Risk: New Report Highlights Urgent Need For Private Sector Action**

P. 8. Private sector investment in Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) has been termed as an essential factor for mitigating operational risks



**News>> Kakuzi Posts KSh295.5M Net Profit As Revenues Grow To KSh1.5B In The 2024 Half-Year Trading Period**

P. 12. Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) listed agribusiness firm Kakuzi Plc has posted a KSh 295.5 million net profit in its half-year trading results.

# State Draws Line Ahead of Kamukunji Rally

**Democracy for Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua will only be allowed to hold his planned meeting at the Kamukunji grounds today if he or his party has made the requisite notifications to the police for adequate security deployment.**

This is according to Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen, who maintains that the government will not allow unsanctioned public rallies to disrupt peace and business in Nairobi during Gachagua's planned return.



Democracy for Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua

STORY ON PAGE 9

**NAIROBI - MT KENYA CIRCUIT ROADSHOW ROADMAP (17-18 SEPT 2025)**

DAY 1: 1 NAIROBI, 2 THIKA, 3 KENOL, 4 MAKUTANO, 5 KAGIO, 6 EMBU, 7 CHUKA, 8 MERU, 9 NANYUKI, 10 NYERI, 11 NYAHURURU, 12 NAKURU, 13 NAIVASHA, 14 TWO RIVERS MALL

DAY 2: 15 NAIROBI

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# DP Kithure Kindiki Hosts Artists From Embu, Meru And Tharaka-Nithi Counties

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themtkenyatimes

## Some Of The Moments As Captured In Pictures

Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki yesterday had a joyous moment with hundreds of youths who are in art and creative sector.

The youth, drawn from three counties of Meru, Embu and Tharaka-Nithi met at the DP's Irunduni home in Tharaka constituency.

The over 2000 youths eke a living through music, comedy, MCs, content creation and other grassroots based performing artists across the creative industry.

The DP took time to update them on progress made so far by the government in support of the creative sector and the steps ahead as he urged them to organize themselves in registered groups to attract funding for common user facilities like recording studios, community radios and television stations, and to continue using their productions to advance positive values and to discourage social vices.



Editor's Desk

The Mt. Kenya Times



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MT KENYA BUSINESS CONFERENCE CIRCUIT

# NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE, 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ROADSHOW



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## NEWS IN BRIEF



Defence Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya and UN Women Kenya Representative Antonia Sodion witnessed the signing of a project document between the International Peace Support Training Centre and the Elsie Initiative Fund for the 3rd cycle call for proposals at the Defence Headquarters in Nairobi.



Defence Principal Secretary Dr. Patrick Mariru inspects the newly built 500-unit Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) housing estate in Roysambu, Nairobi County.



Despite ongoing government efforts, many off-grid communities in Kenya continue to struggle without reliable electricity. In Muhoroni Sub-County, Kisumu County, this challenge is being addressed through a new partnership between the county government, BLUETTI, and UN-Habitat. The initiative, known as the Lighting an African Family Program, has donated 300 solar lighting and storage kits to households in the impoverished estates of Shauri Moyo and Shauri Yako.

The project has already benefited over 2,000 residents who previously relied on kerosene lamps or lived in darkness. Speaking during the handover, Aloice Ager, Chief of Staff and Coordinator for Partnerships and Resource Mobilisation, said the programme seeks to uplift underprivileged families, especially children from disadvantaged households.



Vihiga County has established a County Climate Change Planning Committee (CCCPC) in accordance with Section 16 of the Vihiga County Climate Change Act, 2025. The team appointed by the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Climate Change, Dr Richard Boiyo brings together key departmental directors to guide the county's climate agenda. The Committee will be chaired by the Chief Officer responsible for Climate Change matters, while the Director of Climate Change will serve as the Secretary.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale has underscored the urgent need for sustainable health financing in Africa during a side event at the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9). Duale highlighted persistent challenges facing Africa's health systems, including over-reliance on external aid and the absence of robust, innovative financing models. He noted that the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the African Health Strategy (2016-2030) provide a guiding framework for building sustainable, country-owned health financing systems. Sharing Kenya's reform experience, the CS outlined three key pillars driving progress: domestic resource mobilization, universal health coverage, and public-private partnerships. He stressed the importance of greater domestic investment, creative financing approaches, regional solidarity, and stronger accountability to ensure efficiency and sustainability.



The Coast Development Authority (CDA) has launched the construction of two solar-powered boreholes valued at Sh20 million in Machungwani and Wololo, Challa Ward, Taita-Taveta County. The projects are expected to be completed within two months and will provide the much-needed relief to residents, who have been lacking access to clean water for long, leaving them vulnerable to waterborne diseases. The Authority's Ag. Managing Director, Dr Mwanasiti Bendera, said the boreholes will serve remote areas that are not connected to the national grid.



Kenya is stepping up efforts to scale health innovations through stronger policy, financing, and advocacy frameworks, with stakeholders calling for coordinated action to transform the sector. At the inaugural committee meeting convened by Keprecon in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Duke University, Principal Secretary for Medical Services, Dr. Ouma Oluga, underscored four priorities: sustainable health financing, system optimization for efficiency, prioritization of high-impact interventions, and catalytic investments to move innovations beyond pilot projects. He stressed the importance of aligning financing with policy to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and ensure tangible impact at the community level. Committee Chair Prof. Fred Were outlined the vision and objectives, highlighting the need to bridge the gap between research-driven solutions and systemic adoption so innovations can directly respond to Kenya's health priorities. The forum, bringing together leaders from government, academia, civil society, and development partners, ended with a pledge to champion innovation as a national priority and unlock the enablers required to strengthen Kenya's health system.

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# KWS With Support Of Partners Launches Modern Patrol Boat To Safeguard Lake Turkana

By: MKT Reporter  
@themkenyaintimes

## Worth Noting:

- The patrol vessel, donated by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Centre and Network (HoAREC&N), with strong support from the South Rift Association of Land Owners (SORALO), is fitted with modern sonar and radar technology.
- The boat will play a critical role in strengthening surveillance, deterring illegal activities, protecting fisheries, and ensuring the safety of both wildlife and communities whose livelihoods depend on the lake's fragile ecosystem.



The Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) yesterday commissioned a state-of-the-art patrol boat for Sibiloi National Park, aiming to enhance the protection of Lake Turkana, also known as the Jade Sea.

The patrol vessel, donated by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the Horn of Africa Regional Environmental Centre and Network (HoAREC&N), with strong support from the South Rift Association of Land Owners (SORALO), is fitted with modern sonar and radar technology.

The boat will play a critical role in strengthening surveillance, deterring illegal activities, protecting fisheries, and ensuring the safety of both wildlife and communities whose livelihoods depend on the lake's fragile ecosystem.

KWS Director General, Prof. Erustus Kanga, hailed the donation as "a life-line for both people and wildlife," noting its dual impact on conservation and community welfare. He emphasised

that the boat would not only enable timely patrols but also help safeguard fisheries and boost local livelihoods. "This boat comes at a critical time. In the past two years, we have lost three officers in Sibiloi, two shot by adversaries and one drowned during a foot patrol. This vessel will greatly improve safety for our rangers while enhancing our ability to secure Lake Turkana," said Prof. Kanga. Beyond security, the patrol boat is expected to open new horizons for tourism in northern Kenya, offering safer access to Sibiloi National Park and the lake. "Imagine tourists exploring the great Jade Sea, guided by local experts, experiencing the cradle of humankind right here in Sibiloi. That is the future we envision, where conservation fuels tourism, creates jobs, and uplifts communities," Prof. Kanga added.

He further emphasised that conservation cannot succeed without the involvement of local communities, recognising them as the custodians of Lake Turkana and its resources.

"Their resilience, wisdom, and stewardship are the foundation upon which conservation rests," he said, while expressing deep gratitude to SIDA, HoAREC&N, and SORALO for their commitment to conservation and community development.

Ole Kamanga, Director of SORALO, underscored the need to strengthen livelihoods around Sibiloi.

"This boat will improve patrols, enhance ranger efficiency, and secure the future of fishing communities. Beyond this, SORALO is also committed to supporting rangers in accessing clean water," he said.

Prof. Mekuria Argaw, Director of

HoAREC&N, highlighted the regional importance of the lake and park saying, "Sibiloi does not exist in isolation; it connects to two other parks in Ethiopia. Protecting biodiversity here strengthens resilience across the entire Horn of Africa."

On the other hand, Prof. George Owiti reflected on the evolving nature of conservation, stating, "Today, it is no longer human-wildlife conflict but human-wildlife interaction," pointing to the growing role of communities as co-custodians of wildlife.

This milestone directly supports the KWS Strategic Plan 2024-2028, which prioritises wildlife security, community participation, and partnerships as the bedrock of conservation success.

The patrol boat is a tangible example of how government, partners, and local custodians can work together to protect natural heritage and secure a sustainable future.

The officials noted that for the people and wildlife of Lake Turkana, the vessel represents more than steel and technology and a symbol of renewed hope, resilience, and shared responsibility.

The public was urged to report any suspicious wildlife trade activities through KWS channels, including their 24-hour hotline (0800 597 000).



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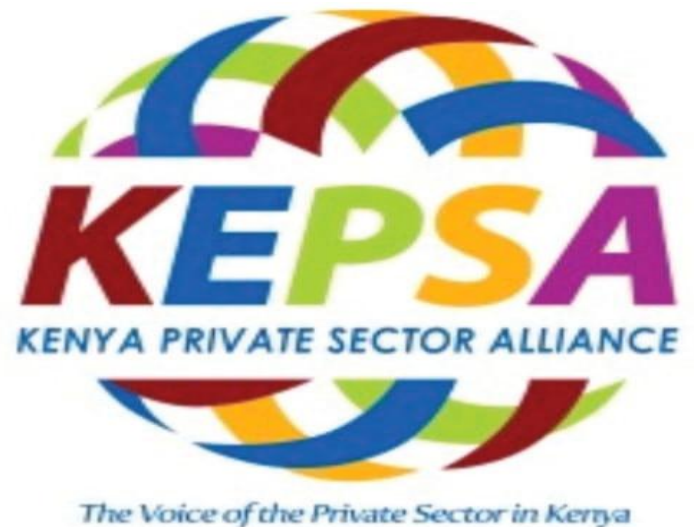
# Kenya's Water Crisis Puts Economy At Risk: New Report Highlights Urgent Need For Private Sector Action

By: MKT Reporter  
 @themkenyatimes

Private sector investment in Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) has been termed as an essential factor for mitigating operational risks and a long-term solution to Kenya's water crisis, which now poses far-reaching economic danger.

During a private sector consultation workshop that was held yesterday in Nairobi, speakers emphasised the shift from water use to water stewardship as a strategic imperative of water resource management. Hosted by Gatsby Africa, in partnership with the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), the forum sought to disseminate key findings from the final Kenya Water Resources Management Report with a focus on water supply and demand trends in Kenya and the critical role of the private sector in Integrated Water Resources Management.

In his opening remarks, Dr John Wandaka; Chair, KEPSA Environ-



ment, Water and Natural Resources Sector Board, called for collaboration, private sector investment, and policy reforms to achieve sustainable water management and secure Kenya's development agenda.

"We know that water is not just a human need. It is the backbone of agricultural productivity, industrial output, tourism industry, public health, energy generation, and simply put, without sustainable water management, we cannot achieve sustainable economic growth," said Dr Wandaka.

According to the report, water stress is escalating in Kenya's key economic regions, notably the Athi and Tana basins, which contribute significantly to the national economy.

The study projects that these basins will face severe water shortages, with the Athi basin experiencing deficits between 57% and 99% and the Tana basin facing 32% to 64% shortages during the dry season. This crisis directly threatens business continuity, as manufacturers and urban service providers heavily depend on reliable

water supplies.

"Water demand in Kenya is rapidly outpacing supply. Despite these challenges, Kenya is blessed with sufficient rainfall, approachable land, architecture for capturing, storing, and distributing water for various domestic and economic activities. So we have the opportunities for storing and investing in various efficiencies that can counter this trend," remarked Sam Kareithi, Country Director, Gatsby Africa.

Kenya faces critical water challeng-

es driven by climate change, population growth, and urbanisation. With over 80% of Kenya's landmass classified as arid or semi-arid, pressure on freshwater resources is escalating.

With rising demand across agricultural, industrial, and domestic sectors, there is a critical need for effective and inclusive water governance.

# Murkomen Leads Multi-Agency Push To Curb Nyandarua Livestock Theft

By: Bruhan Makong  
 @themkenyatimes

The government is escalating a multi-agency crackdown on livestock theft in Nyandarua County after rising public outcry over losses that have squeezed household incomes and disrupted local meat supply chains.

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen said several suspects have already been arrested and arraigned, with more expected as operations intensify across hotspot subcounties including Kinangop, Ol Kalou and Ndaragwa. "Cases of livestock theft have significantly reduced," he noted, crediting coordination between administrative units and residents.

Officials say the crime has morphed from open rustling to night-time slaughter in homesteads, with stolen

meat allegedly funneled to butcheries through complicit traders—an evolution that complicates enforcement and traceability for regulators and consumers alike. Murkomen framed the push as both a law-and-order priority and an economic one: stabilising a vital asset base for smallholders and restoring confidence for downstream buyers.

Tensions in the county have been high. Murkomen acknowledged farmer anger, referencing recent unrest in Kinangop Constituency after three suspects accused of cattle theft died while in police custody—an episode that preceded the burning of Ndunyu Njeru Police Station, according to authorities. He urged residents to eschew vigilante reprisals and allow investigators and the courts to build cases that expose wider networks. "No one should take the law into their own hands," he said.

Beyond livestock theft, the ministry is also probing stolen National ID



cards in the area. Replacements are being issued, Murkomen said, warning that anyone found misusing stolen identities will face prosecution.

Why it matters: Livestock remains a key store of value and cash-flow buffer for rural households. Theft spikes translate into income shocks, higher informal security costs, and potential retail price distortions if illicit meat enters the market. A sustained enforcement drive—paired with com-

munity reporting, cold-chain audits, and butchery compliance checks—could help restore confidence across the county's micro-economy while reducing the incentive for criminal networks.

# State Issues Ultimatum To Gachagua For Kamukunji Rally To Proceed

By: Kamau Mwangi  
 @themtkenyatimes

Democracy for Citizens Party (DCP) leader Rigathi Gachagua will only be allowed to hold his planned meeting at the Kamukunji grounds today if he or his party has made the requisite notifications to the police for adequate security deployment.

This is according to Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen, who maintains that the government will not allow unsanctioned public rallies to disrupt peace and business in Nairobi during Gachagua's planned return.

"If they have given the notification, we have absolutely no issue with any person, political party, or any politician calling for a meeting. They just need to give the notification, and they must ensure their meeting is peaceful and does not lead to situations of disrupting the peace for others or burning of property or looting or violence," said Murkomen said in Nyan-

darua.

"If you burn a police station, you burn government cars, whether county or national, you burn a police office, you burn somebody's supermarket—there is no other charge we can bring before the court. The best charge is those related to terror because that is exactly what you're doing."

The Interior CS also defended the move by the government to prefer terrorism charges against suspects of arson on government property, as well as those arrested on allegations of looting businesses during demonstrations.

Murkomen's remarks follow a similar warning by the Inspector General of Police, Douglas Kanja, who downplayed Gachagua's much-publicised return from the United States, describing it as an "ordinary" affair.

IG Kanja emphasised that the National Police Service is fully in charge of security arrangements and expects "normalcy" during Gachagua's landing at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) on Thursday.

CS Murkomen had already cau-



Inspector General of Police Douglas Kanja during a past press address. PHOTO | COURTESY | NPS

tioned Gachagua and his supporters against disrupting public order, warning that intelligence reports indicated a planned chaos during his arrival.

He indicated that the government was prepared to take legal action

should the DCP mobilisation—which calls for over one million supporters to throng JKIA—degenerate into lawlessness.

"The last time he was around, there were disruptions in the name of pro-

tests. We are prepared, and the National Police Service will protect citizens and their property," Murkomen said in Murang'a County during the 30th Jukwaa la Usalama forum on Tuesday.

# Six Suspects Arrested For Robbing Missionary Camps In Three Counties, Police Uniform Recovered

By: Joseph Muia  
 @themtkenyatimes

Detectives in Kajiado have nabbed six robbery with violence suspects believed to be behind a wave of violent robberies targeting missionary camps in Kajiado, Machakos and Makeni counties.

The six were arrested separately after a team of Crime Research and Intelligence Bureau sleuths launched a manhunt following their recent attack at the Korean Mission Camp (MCK) in Elerai area of Mashuuru Sub-County in Kajiado, where they fatally injured a watchman.

Two of them, Muoki Mulee and Ambrose Mutuku, were nabbed in Kitengela and near Machakos Junction, respectively while the rest, Dominic Moenga Mwambi, Joseph Mamai, Gideon Nyaga Njeri and Alex Mwaura Waweru were appre-

hended in Kantafu in Matungulu Sub-County, Machakos.

According to the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), the suspects, reportedly donning police regalia and armed with crude weapons, had been raiding mission camps and attacking people.

"The gang's most recent attack occurred on August 8, 2025, when they stormed the Korean Mission Camp (MCK) in Elerai area of Mashuuru Sub-County. Dressed in police jungle fatigues and wielding crude weapons, the assailants fatally injured a watchman during the raid," stated the DCI. "Investigators have since linked the group to similar violent robberies in Kimana, Mashuru, Wote, and other areas."

Police say that upon interrogation of Ambrose, he led officers to his residence in Kitulu village, Machakos County, where detectives recovered police jungle uniforms believed to be used by the gang in their criminal



A collage of the six suspects arrested in Kajiado over robbery with violence. PHOTO|COURTESY

escapades, along with Ksh.49,000 in cash.

Preliminary investigations have since revealed that the first two suspects, Muoki and Ambrose, are

jailbirds having been released from Machakos Prison in December 2024.

During the operations, three vehicles with registration numbers believed to have facilitated the crimes were also

impounded.

The six suspects are currently in custody, undergoing processing ahead of their arraignment.

# DP's Engagement With Artists From Embu, Meru And Tharaka-Nithi Counties

By: DPCS  
@themkenyatimes

Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki yesterday hosted hundreds of artists and creatives from Mt Kenya East region at his Irunduni home.

He said the country celebrates the extraordinary achievements of its youth engaged in music, content creation, entertainment and the entire creative space.

"Talent in music, performance arts and other creatives has produced immense success and wealth for stars in the first world, but we in the developing world lag behind," he said, adding, "The Government is dismantling cartels and removing obstacles that have undermined the potential of good earnings for artists in the creative sector, and no amount of frivolous lawsuits or resistance will change that resolve."

The Second-in-Command noted that the same way the government has



Deputy President Prof Kithure Kindiki addressing the artists yesterday.



won over similar cartels undermining our tea, coffee and sugarcane sectors, it will similarly win the war against cartels in the creative industry.

"The State Department on the creative economy is in place to offer coordinated action, a new creative economy support law and a new culture law are currently before Parlia-

ment and enforcement of the rule that at least 70% of revenue collected by collective management organizations shall go to artists is underway," he observed.

During the colourful event, the DP met over 2000 musicians, comedians, event MCs, content creators and other grassroots based performing artists

across the creative industry from the three counties.

The DP updated them on progress made so far by government in support of the creative sector and the steps ahead.

As he interacted with them, he called upon them to organize themselves in registered groups to attract funding

for common user facilities like recording studios, community radios and television stations, and to continue using their productions to advance positive values and to discourage social vices.



# Tribunal Overturns Gloria Orwoba's Expulsion From UDA As Senate Replacement Sworn In

By: Dzuya Walter  
 @themkenyatimes

The Political Parties Disputes Tribunal (PPDT) has overturned a decision by the United Democratic Alliance (UDA) to expel former Nominated Senator Gloria Orwoba from the party, terming the move unlawful and unprocedural.

In a ruling delivered on Tuesday evening, the tribunal held that the disciplinary proceedings leading to her ouster were riddled with irregularities and failed to meet the threshold of fairness required under the law.

"The decision to expel Gloria Orwoba is unlawful and illegal," the tribunal declared, adding that the process undertaken by the party's disciplinary organ was both unprocedural and ultra vires.

The PPDT further quashed the expulsion order and issued an injunction restraining the Registrar of Political Parties from removing Orwoba's name from the party register on the basis of the contested decision.

The tribunal also directed UDA to reverse any steps or actions taken to oust Orwoba, effectively reinstating her as a member of the party.

Orwoba had challenged her expulsion before the tribunal, arguing that the party had targeted her unfairly and denied her a fair hearing.

In the case, Orwoba - through lawyer Duncan Okatch - told the court that she was never served and was never given a fair hearing.

The tribunal, in its decision, noted that there were no documents to prove that the former lawmaker was served. On its part, UDA told the court that the process was aligned to the law.

The decision came a day before Orwoba's replacement in the Senate - Consolata Nabwire Wakwabubi - was officially sworn in on Wednesday.

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) dealt Orwoba's fate in Parliament's Upper House the final blow this past Friday when it gazetted Nabwire as her replacement in the House.

The President William Ruto-led UDA party expelled Orwoba in May this year on the grounds of gross misconduct and violating the party's constitution and code of conduct.

UDA Secretary General Hassan Omar said in a press statement then that the party's National Executive Committee (NEC) unanimously approved the expulsion in response to the Disciplinary Committee's recommendations.

Orwoba was found guilty of making public statements that harmed the party's image and repeatedly failing to respond to disciplinary charges.

"After a comprehensive review of



Former Nominated Senator Gloria Orwoba speaks during a past meeting. PHOTO | COURTESY

the Disciplinary Committee's report and in line with Article 29 of the UDA Constitution, the NEC found Senator Orwoba's actions incompatible with the values and objectives of the party," Omar stated on May 19, 2025.

Among other key issues raised against Orwoba then was her refusal to respond to multiple invitations

from the Disciplinary Committee, instead choosing to communicate through her legal representatives.

The party stated that, despite having ample opportunity to present her defense, she declined to appear in person, undermining internal dispute resolution mechanisms.

UDA then wrote to the Registrar of

Political Parties and the Speaker of the Senate to formally communicate Orwoba's expulsion and begin the process of removing her from the Senate as a nominated legislator on the party's ticket.

Senate Speaker Amason Kingi on May 21, 2025 announced a vacancy in Orwoba's position



Consolata Nabwire was sworn in as a nominated Senator yesterday replacing Orwoba

**Worth Noting:**

- The PPDT further quashed the expulsion order and issued an injunction restraining the Registrar of Political Parties from removing Orwoba's name from the party register on the basis of the contested decision.
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# Kakuzi Posts KSh295.5M Net Profit As Revenues Grow To KSh1.5B In The 2024 Half-Year Trading Period

By: MKT Reporter  
@themtkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- Commenting on the firm's flagship crop performance, the avocado divisional trading results, he said, had realised a half-year profit of Ksh 395 million compared to a half-year profit of KSh951 million posted in 2024, primarily because of a lower crop valuation in 2025.
- The international avocado market, he disclosed, has been well supplied, with price levels reflecting higher supply. Last year, the markets were undersupplied during the same period, which led to a corresponding higher price. At the close of the half-year reporting period, Kakuzi had exported 165 containers (801,840 cartons) of avocados primarily to European markets, which are also receiving fruit from Peru, South Africa and Colombia.



Kakuzi Managing Director Mr Chris Flowers (left) with President William Ruto and Murang'a Governor Irungu Kang'ata (right) at the recent Murang'a Investment Conference. File Picture.

Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) listed agribusiness firm Kakuzi Plc has posted a KSh 295.5 million net profit in its half-year trading results.

Within the period under review, Kakuzi's total revenue grew to KSh1.51 billion, up from KSh1.17 billion realised within the same period last year. Speaking when he confirmed the half-year 2025 trading results, Kakuzi Managing Director Mr. Chris Flowers said the firm has adopted strategic operating strategies to facilitate growth within a challenging operating environment.

"The year-to-date trading in our two core crops is in line with expectations. The international avocado market has been well supplied, with price levels reflecting this situation," Mr. Flowers said. He added, "The earlier experienced shipping route challenges are also beginning to stabilise with

an increasing number of voyages returning to the Red Sea routing."

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As the global macadamia market continues to show further gains, the Kakuzi Macadamia division recorded a half-year profit of KSh319 million, up from KSh32 million posted within the same period last year. The firm's blueberry production, he said, has also increased in line with expectations. "This (blueberry) business venture is now profitable, recording a half-year profit of KSh13 million compared to a KSh17 million loss for the same period last year," Mr. Flowers said.

He reiterated that the firm's Board remains committed to continuing to diversify the Company's operation and maintain its focus on responsible business models. "Our operating mandate is firmly rooted in our purpose of 'Growing Together', lifting others as we grow through a process of meaningful stakeholder engage-

ment", he said.

He expressed concern that the firm had recently faced land invasion cases by unscrupulous individuals. "The actions have occasioned massive environmental damage and raised security tensions among the local community. We are, however, pursuing legal remedies and redress available to us, to secure shareholder rights and avoid attempts to expropriate or erode the value of our shareholder assets," Mr. Flowers assured Kakuzi shareholders.

The company's business growth and diversification plans, he said, are firmly anchored on positively contributing to the development and promotion of Murang'a County and the national economy, including job creation and foreign exchange (Forex) earnings.

# Moi University Lecturers Declare Strike Over Unmet Agreement

By: Fredrick Maritim and Ekuwam Sylvester

@themkenyetimes

Lecturers at Moi University have downed their tools, accusing the institution's management of failing to honour a return-to-work agreement signed last year.

Speaking to the media yesterday, University Academic Staff Union (UASU) Moi University Chapter Secretary Busolo Wekesa said the strike follows months of frustration after management ignored a 25-clause return-to-work formula agreed upon on November 30, 2024.

"We are not going on strike because we enjoy it or want a salary increase. Salaries are already determined. We are striking because this is the last option left to us," said Wekesa.

He noted that earlier this year, the union engaged in a conciliation process through the Ministry of Labour, but talks collapsed after the employer allegedly failed to cooperate. The union later issued a seven-day strike notice, which expired without any meaningful response from the Uni-

versity Council.

Among the grievances raised are delayed and incomplete salaries, the alleged diversion of a Sh500 million bailout fund, lack of staff promotions for more than seven years, pension arrears of over Sh4.6 billion, and the suspension of medical cover that has left lecturers paying out-of-pocket despite deductions.

UASU Moi University Chapter Vice Chairperson Linda Khaemba accused management of ignoring the union unless forced by industrial action, saying the move has eroded staff morale.

"Management attempted an unlawful redundancy exercise last year, which the union stopped in court. Yet they still refused to restore our members' financial dignity, even instructing banks not to loan our staff," she said.

Khaemba added that the situation has made it increasingly difficult for lecturers to mentor students while struggling with unpaid salaries, lack of healthcare and uncertainty about retirement benefits.

The union insists it is not demanding new benefits but only the fulfilment of agreements already signed.



"As of today, Moi University academic staff are officially on strike. We will not report to our places of work, and we will not provide services until our grievances are addressed," the union declared.

The industrial action comes barely a week after UASU issued a seven-day strike notice over delayed salaries and other unmet agreements.

In a statement dated August 12, UASU Secretary General Constatine

Opiyo directed all members at Moi University to withdraw their labour until the return-to-work formula is fully implemented.

# Motorists Demand Action Against Corrupt Traffic Cops In Kiambu

By: Felix Njenga

@themkenyetimes

Motorists in Kiambu County are calling on the government to crack down on rampant corruption among traffic police officers, accusing them of contributing to road accidents and undermining safety.

Drivers, both from public and private sectors, describe the bribery culture as a "deep-rooted cancer" that needs to be "stamped out" by firing the corrupt officers. They specifically named roadblocks in Limuru and Lari along the Nairobi-Naiyasha highway as the most notorious spots for collecting bribes. Other areas mentioned include Kiambu town, Ruiru, Kasarani, and Karuri.

A bus driver noted that the practice of accepting bribes has made enforcing traffic rules a thing of the past, allowing unroadworthy vehicles to operate freely and causing numerous

accidents.

An investigation revealed that the fight against road corruption is being hampered by the alleged involvement of officers from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC). According to a traffic police officer who spoke anonymously, EACC officials have become part of the corruption network, allegedly collecting "protection dues" from traffic bases every Friday. These payments are said to protect traffic officers from being arrested for bribery.

A traffic officer confessed that this new demand for money from EACC officials is making it even harder to fight corruption on the roads.

The apparent severity of some of the country's traffic laws also encourages motorists to pay bribes to avoid facing the full penalties.

According to former Limuru MP Peter Mwathi, the non-compliance with road safety regulations due to bribes is a major cause of road accidents. He suggests that some traf-



Former Limuru MP Peter Mwathi..

fic laws need to be reviewed and amended to help reduce corruption. EACC CEO Abdi Ahmed Mohamed had previously revealed that

about 3 billion shillings is collected from motorists every month nationwide.

He noted that while many see brib-

ery as a minor offense, its consequences are severe, as it compromises road safety and costs lives.

## My Uzbekistan



Let the whole world know who you are.  
Let them crack at your name  
You are stronger than all countries  
My best Uzbekistan

You have a world-renowned Bobur

The world was created with Beruni  
World-renowned  
Your Temur is called Uzbek

The meaning lies in the Uzbek name  
In a mother's embrace full of love  
This homeland is in the depths of fire  
Life is in full swing

My homeland is peaceful, oh  
motherland  
Listen to his voice, listen to him.  
O Navoi, rest for a moment  
Because you have your homeland.

Atajanova Araztaj  
Uzbekistan

## When Communicating With A Child In Dentistry



You realize that treatment is not only about teeth,  
but also about trust – when you look into the eyes of a little patient.

"Communication" – a simple word, but in the dental office, it becomes a key.  
A key to trust, calmness, and successful treatment.

A child does not come only with a toothache – he or she also comes with fear, anxiety, and questions.

If we want to help,  
we must first treat the fear,  
and only then the tooth.

The doctor's first word, first smile, first gesture

all of these are more important than instruments.

If the child feels warmth and understanding,  
he or she will open not only the mouth for treatment,  
but also the heart for trust.

We often forget:  
For us, the dental chair is routine,  
but for a child, it is an unknown world.

Every sound of the drill seems louder,  
every smell – stronger,  
every touch – more sensitive.

That is why words like "Don't be afraid," "I'm here with you," "You're doing great" become as essential as fillings or instruments.

Communicating with a child means explaining with simple words,

showing with a toy or a picture,  
giving a sense of control.

Sometimes it's enough to say:

"Let me show you first,"

"Do you want to hold the mirror yourself?"

"We'll do this together."

Then fear turns into curiosity,  
and mistrust into cooperation.

One day, this child will grow up.  
He or she will remember not only fillings and injections,

but also how the doctor spoke to them.  
For a lifetime, they will either trust dentists or fear them –  
and much of that depends on us.

Let us not forget:  
teeth can be treated in a single day,  
but a child's trust is built over years.  
The greatest gift we can give to a little patient is not only a healthy smile,  
but also the belief that a dentist is a friend.

Odinakhon Rakhimova Abdug'afurovna,  
First-year student, Faculty of Medicine,  
Dentistry Department, Al-Fraganus University,  
Tashkent.

## Mom's Achievement



Oh mother, I look at you, joy in my eyes,  
Light and faith are reflected in your eyes.  
You are my soul, my refuge,  
With you, there is light in my life.

This achievement suits you very well,  
Mother, you always deserve this.  
Thanks to your prayers, I am here today.

My love for you will never fade.  
You are the garden of my life, Mother,  
Your words are sweet as honey.  
My love for you, always complete,  
My constant refuge, my dear mother

Atajanova Araztaj  
Uzbekistan

## The Power Of Once More



There lies a secret deep and wise,  
Though known by few who dare to seek;  
It hides behind the silent tries,  
Unseen until success will speak.

They whisper "try just once again,"  
For effort builds what dreams require;  
Not measured out in days of strain,  
But driven by a heart on fire.

It's not "do this or else you die,"

But live to do and see it through;  
Don't quit before you truly try,  
Let purpose be your guiding view.

A tree falls with a final stroke,  
Yet many came before that sound;  
Each chop a promise that you spoke,  
To stand and strike until it's downed.

Some say success just bloomed one night,  
But years were spent to build that flame;  
Each hour unseen, each quiet fight,  
Prepared the soul to earn its name.

So when your courage starts to sway,  
And doubt begins to cloud your core –  
Stand firm and let your spirit say

V Durgadevi  
BT Assistant  
GHS Nesal  
Tiruvannamalai District

## Mirrors Tell The Truth



Mirrors reflect every smile and every tear,  
But who can see the emotions that we hold inside

The external reaction is a mask we wear,  
Concealing the truth, that only we know

The smile that hides the bitter tears,  
The fears that hold us the doubts that appear,  
No one can sense it externally  
All they see is the external life.

But mirrors, are totally different,  
they see it with true eyes  
They reflect the inner thoughts, and emotions  
They don't judge, they don't lie, they're honest and true,  
A reflection of our soul, for everyone

So we apply filters, to hide the truth,  
To conceal the emotions, that we hold  
We try to fool the mirror, but it is not possible  
Mirrors are too honest, they won't hide

They see beyond the mask, that we wear,  
And reflect the real us, without a single care,  
No filters can deceive or cheat the mirror's honesty  
It sees the truth, in all angle

Brinda. D  
CREATIVE WRITERS  
GRADUATE TEACHER,  
GOVT HIGH SCHOOL,  
MELPATTAMPAKKAM  
CUDDALORE,  
Tamilnadu India

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## POLITICS

## Mutai To Face Senators From Wednesday Next Week As Senate Sets Key Timelines

By: Irene Mwangi  
@themtkenyentimes

Senators will hear the impeachment motion against Kericho Governor Erick Mutai in plenary after a proposal to form a special committee collapsed in the House.

Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot (Kericho) had sought to establish an 11-member committee to investigate the charges, but the motion failed after Minority Leader Stewart Madzayo (Kilifi) declined to second it.

Speaker Amason Kingi consequently ruled that the case will be heard by the whole House between Wednesday and Friday next week.

Both Governor Mutai and the County Assembly are required to file their submissions by Monday.

The governor faces a raft of accusations, including misappropriation of public funds, abuse of office, and gross misconduct, which the Assembly says amount to gross violation of the Constitution and other laws.

Governor Mutai is accused of authorising fictitious payments for undelivered goods and inflated supplies worth over Sh85.7 million.

Questionable expenditures flagged include the alleged maintenance of fifteen residential houses, procurement of agricultural inputs such as soya beans and maize germ that were never delivered, and outrageously overpriced items—among them sodas allegedly bought at Sh500 per bottle, tissue paper at Sh2,750 per bale, and hand towels at Sh3,600 apiece.

Auditors also flagged double payments to contractors from retention accounts for projects completed more than five years ago, as well as Sh5.1 million paid to firms without supporting documents.

The governor is further accused of presiding over irregular procurements, splitting tenders, and approving advance payments even as Kericho's pending bills ballooned to Sh1.1 billion.

#### Fraud allegations

A County Assembly Ad Hoc Committee report tabled in August 2024 cited forged signatures, fraudulent paperwork, and attempts to cover up theft.

Funds under national programmes were also allegedly mismanaged. Under the National Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (NAVC-DP), more than Sh351 million earmarked for farmers' cooperatives was diverted. Only 19 of the county's 30



Kericho Governor Erick Mutai

wards reportedly benefited, and even then, many received only substandard farm inputs and furniture.

Mutai's home ward of Chemosot was said to have been unduly favoured under the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLOCCA) Fund, receiving projects worth Sh21.7 million while several wards got nothing.

He is also accused of launching the Equalizer Kazi Mtaani Initiative without legislation or budgetary approval, through which Sh39 million was allegedly spent irregularly.

Similar irregularities were reported under Strategic Intervention Projects (SIPs), including the upgrading of Kunyak Dispensary, where Sh8.5 million was paid despite no work being done.

Further, the governor allegedly coerced county officials to divert funds for his personal use and misused emergency funds following the Londiani accident, despite public donations having already been raised for victims.

Mutai is also accused of mishandling over Sh9 million raised by Kenyans of goodwill for victims of the Londiani junction accident in July 2023.

#### Flawed tendering

The Assembly claims he was complicit in awarding flawed direct tenders for services during the fundraiser and requiem mass, while failing to act on an Ad Hoc Committee report that exposed the scandal.

The governor faces charges of nepotism and illegal appointments, including hiring his brother as a revenue clerk and confirming his aide's wife as a nurse over more qualified candidates.

He is also faulted for appointing a County Attorney while the substantive office holder was still in place—a decision later declared unlawful by the Employment and Labour Relations Court, which ordered him personally to pay Sh2 million in costs.

Further accusations include irregular deployment of health workers without consulting the County Public Service Board, arbitrary dismissal of senior county officials—including ten CECs and six chief officers—and politicising public recruitment despite severe budgetary constraints.

Mutai also stands accused of un-

dermining the oversight role of the County Assembly after he wrote to Speaker Patrick Mutai on September 3, 2024, purporting to dictate how Assembly summons to county officers should be handled.

The governor is accused of leading an illegal land invasion shortly after assuming office, when he allegedly stormed private land in Kericho town belonging to businessman Joseah Kiplangat Kogo, tore down its fence, and declared it a county dumpsite despite a subsisting court order.

He is further accused of fostering a toxic work environment through bullying and intimidation of county staff, arbitrary dismissals, and coercion, undermining fair administrative action.

The charges also cite his persistent use of divisive and abusive language, which the Assembly says has brought disrepute to the Office of Governor and violated leadership and integrity standards expected of State officers.

#### Worth Noting:

- The governor faces a raft of accusations, including misappropriation of public funds, abuse of office, and gross misconduct, which the Assembly says amount to gross violation of the Constitution and other laws.
- Governor Mutai is accused of authorising fictitious payments for undelivered goods and inflated supplies worth over Sh85.7 million.
- Questionable expenditures flagged include the alleged maintenance of fifteen residential houses, procurement of agricultural inputs such as soya beans and maize germ that were never delivered, and outrageously overpriced items—among them sodas allegedly bought at Sh500 per bottle, tissue paper at Sh2,750 per bale, and hand towels at Sh3,600 apiece.



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# First Lady launches New Agricultural Technology And Innovation Centre At The University of Nairobi



KATIC centre at UON.

By: Ndungu Mburu  
@themkenyaintimes

First Lady Rachel Ruto has officially launched a new state-of-art agricultural technology and innovation Centre at the University of Nairobi.

It was a day of excitement and fanfare at the UoN's College of Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences (CAVS) located at Upper Kabete in Nairobi as captains and chieftains of industry and commerce joined government officials, varsity dons, scientists and students to witness the unveiling of the Kantaria Agricultural Technology & Innovation Centre (KATIC).

Located on Kapenguria Road, about 15 kilometres northwest of Nairobi, the new block is a pioneering collaboration between agricultural chemicals and fertiliser manufacturer and distributor, Elgon Kenya Limited and the University of Nairobi.

KATIC is a state-of-the-art hub established to bridge the gap between academia and industry by promoting innovative agricultural technologies, fast-tracking the adoption of research-driven solutions, and nurturing the next generation of agripreneurs and industry leaders.

The launch marked the successful completion of Phase One, which includes the construction of a fully equipped Centre, demonstration plots, and the rollout of a vibrant internship programme. Phase Two will expand KATIC's capacity with the addition of accommodation and catering facilities to promote inclusivity and support for youth in agriculture.

'The Centre is envisioned as a vibrant space for learning, innovation,

and enterprise—bringing together students, 4K clubs, TVET institutions, agri-tech start-ups, and young entrepreneurs, supported by a network of mentors, researchers, and industry experts,' said Dr Bimal Kantaria, managing director at Elgon Kenya Limited. The MD oversees more than 600 employees and operations in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia and Zambia as the largest agriculture inputs company in East Africa.

The centre, a legacy initiative by Elgon Kenya led by Dr Kantaria, who is also chairman of the Agriculture Sector Network (ASNET), the umbrella body representing the collective voice of the agriculture sector in Kenya. ASNET serves as the agriculture sector board for the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA). 'KATIC aims to equip young people with cutting-edge agricultural technology skills, foster research, connect academia with the private sector, and promote AI-driven and climate-smart farming solutions,' he said.

KATIC is expected to play a crucial role in transforming agriculture in Kenya by promoting innovation, technology adoption, and youth engagement in the sector. Its ground-breaking ceremony was led by Prime Cabinet Secretary, Musalia Mudavadi, in July 2023.

Speaking at event then, Mr Mudavadi hailed the partnership between Industry and Academia, saying it will propel the country to sustainable agricultural development. He also stressed the importance of agriculture in the nation as it provides a primary livelihood source for 60 per cent of the rural population. "Kenyan's population is estimated

to hit the 55 million mark this year. To meet the rising demands of this rapidly growing population, we must invest and annually increase agricultural production by a minimum of two percent," he said then.

Once operational any Kenyan seeking lessons in home-grown agricultural innovations and expertise in a wide range of issues among others soil fertility management; crop protection and improvement; seedling technology and horticulture; animal production and health, and preventing post-harvest losses will access the centre.



KATIC Centre launch. First Lady Rachel Ruto plants a tree as Eldon MD Dr B Kantaria looks on.



Prime CS, Hon Musalia Mudavadi, UoN VC, Prof Stephen Kiama and Elgon Kenya MD, Dr Bimal Kantaria during the ground-breaking ceremony of KATIC IN 2023. Photos/Courtesy.

# KARA, Nairobi Rivers Commission In Joint Forum As CEO Henry Ochieng' Rallies Citizens To Lead Nairobi River Renewal

By: Cynthia Masibo  
@themkenyatimes

The long-neglected Nairobi River is set for a major facelift after the Kenya Alliance of Resident Associations (KARA) and the Nairobi Rivers Commission renewed calls for public participation in an ambitious regeneration project today at a hotel in Nairobi.

Speaking at the joint stakeholder session, KARA Chief Executive Officer Henry Ochieng' said residents' voices will be central to shaping the transformation of the river corridor, stretching from Naivasha Road to Museum Hill all the way to Dandora falls.

The Nairobi Rivers Commission, established by President William Ruto in 2022, is leading the multi-sectoral effort to restore the once-thriving ecosystem. Commissioner Joseph emphasized that the Commission's mandate is to coordinate government and non-governmental institu-

tions across five counties that is Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado, Machakos, and Makueni.

"We have divided the river into six zones to effectively manage restoration efforts. Pollution comes from three key sources that is solid waste, sewage, and institutional or industrial effluents. Our mission is to unite all stakeholders to address these challenges," Commissioner Joseph explained.

Commissioner Mumo added that the regeneration aims to restore the rivers as vital social, cultural, and economic assets while improving climate resilience. He noted that the Nairobi River Basin currently provides ecosystem services valued at KSh 273 million annually, but pollution has already cut water flow by nearly half, translating to a loss of 17,000 cubic meters.

The project's first phase will include constructing 10,000 social and affordable housing units, markets, and a new trunk sewer line along the river corridor. Authorities say the initiative will also create over 25,000 direct jobs, while reducing



Kenya Alliance of Residents association CEO Mr.Mumo issuing his address to different ward representatives in Nairobi

flooding and improving sanitation. "The Nairobi River regeneration is more than an environmental clean-up. It is a catalytic development project that will create opportunities,

restore dignity, and improve livelihoods," Commissioner Mumo said. With community groups, government agencies, and residents now on board, the ambitious project is being

hailed as a turning point in reclaiming one of Nairobi's most vital natural resources.

# Safaricom Launches B-LIVE, A Time-Based Internet Service

By: Aoma Keziah  
@themkenyatimes

Safaricom has unveiled a new way for customers to connect to the internet, introducing a service it calls B-LIVE at the company headquarters Michael Joseph Centre, in Nairobi.

Customers can now access a non-stop browsing of 1 hour at KES 20, 3 hours at KES 50 and 6 hours at KES 150 giving them the freedom and flexibility to stay connected in a way that suits their lifestyle. From students catching up on online classes, to creators streaming and uploading content, to professionals working on the go.

Unlike traditional data bundles that are sold in megabytes or gigabytes, B-LIVE allows customers to pay for internet access based on time. The company says this approach is designed to give users more control, especially those who want short bursts of access without worrying about data running out.

"We recognise that our customers are

different. Some prefer managing their usage in MBs or GBs, while others simply want to enjoy the internet for a set period of time. By adding this option, we're putting control back in the hands of our customers and enabling them to focus on what matters most, whether that's learning, creating, connecting, or hustling", said Fawzia Ali-Kimanthi, Safaricom's Chief Consumer Business Officer.

She further emphasized that this launch of B-LIVE is about changing how people experience the internet.

"Instead of constantly checking how many MBs you have left, you can simply buy the time you need and go about your activities," added Kimanthi.

B-LIVE builds on Safaricom's commitment to being an enabler of Kenya's digital lifestyle. By expanding bundle options, Safaricom is ensuring that every customer; youth, creators, hustlers, entrepreneurs, and professionals has the power to choose what works for them.

The model is being described as an industry first in Kenya. The company hopes it will appeal to a wide range of



In picture, Fawzia Ali-Kimanthi, Chief Consumer Business Officer, Safaricom PLC, during the launch of B-LIVE at the Safaricom Headquarters in Nairobi.

customers, from students who need quick research sessions to small business owners who may want internet access at specific times of the day.

B-LIVE also signals a shift in how telecoms think about data use. By

moving away from quantity-based bundles, Safaricom is betting that convenience and predictability will matter more to customers in an increasingly digital economy.

This new Data bundle is available

via \*544# or \*555#, offering a range of hourly bundles. Customers can access 1 hour for KES 20, 3 hours for KES 50, and 6 hours for KES 150.

# Kifo Kimetupoka Tena Profesa John Hamu Habwe



By: Alfred Lobawoi  
@themkenyaintimes



## Worth Noting:

“Safari ya elimu ya prof John Habwe ilianza shule ya msingi ya Ebukhaya kabla ya kujiunga na shule ya upili ya Ebwali iliyoko Bunyore, Vihiga. Baadaye alifanikiwa kufundisha somo la Kiswahili katika shule ya upili ya Ebursiratsi, kaunti ya Vihiga. Mchango wake haukuishia hapo, profesa alikuwa mtu mstaarabu aliyependa ushirikiano hasa katika tasnia ya uandishi. Dkt Makhulo wa Makhulo alikuwa miongoni mwa wale ambao profesa Habwe aliwashika mkono katika ulingo wa uandishi. Profesa atakumbukwa daima dawamu katika uandishi wa vitabu kama vile; Mshale wa Matumaini, Mikono ya Gondii, Kovu Moyoni, Maumbile si Huja, Hidayu Yangu, Maisha Kitendawili, Hadaa ya Nafsi, Safari ya Lamu, Sofia Mzimuni, Fumbo la Maisha miongoni mwa kazi zingine nyingi za Kiswahili.”

Ulimwengu wa Kiswahili umetumbukia kwenye biwi la simanzi baada ya kupokea taarifa za tanzia kuhusu mauko ya Profesa John Habwe mnamo Jumatatu. Profesa Habwe alikuwa ameugua kwa mda mrefu kulingana na familia yake, jambo ambalo lilipelekea kuuka Dunia hii akitibiwa katika hospitali moja jijini Nairobi.

Safari ya elimu ya prof John Habwe ilianza shule ya msingi ya Ebukhaya kabla ya kujiunga na shule ya upili ya Ebwali iliyoko Bunyore, Vihiga. Baadaye alifanikiwa kufundisha somo la Kiswahili katika shule ya upili ya Ebursiratsi, kaunti ya Vihiga. Hata hivyo baada ya kufundisha huku kwa muda aliondoka na kujiunga na Chuo kikuu cha Nairobi kusomea Shahada B.A. Aliendelea na elimu yake hadi kutuzwa shahada ya uzamili kabla ya kupata shahada ya uzamifu chuoni humo. Profesa Habwe alifanikiwa kufundisha Semantiki, Sintaksia, Isimu na Kiswahili katika chuo hicho cha Nairobi (UON) hadi kifo chake.

Zaidi ya hayo, Profesa Habwe alikuwa Mwenyekiti mwanzilishi wa Idara ya Kiswahili katika chuo kikuu cha Nairobi kuanzia 2013-2016 baada ya kuwa mwenyekiti wa Idara ya Isimu na Lugha 2011-2013. Walio-kuwa wanamfahamu profesa vyema hawakuchoka kumsikiliza kwenye vipindi vya lugha ya Kiswahili katika idhaa ya KBC Radio Taifa miaka ya hapo nyuma alipokuwa akikitetea Kiswahili. Umami wako wa lugha pamoja na hekima zake kochokocho ziliwafaa sana wasikilizaji wake.

Mchango wake haukuishia hapo, profesa alikuwa mtu mstaarabu aliyependa ushirikiano hasa katika tasnia ya uandishi. Dkt Makhulo wa Makhulo alikuwa miongoni mwa wale ambao profesa Habwe aliwashika mkono katika ulingo wa uandishi. Alimpa nafasi ya kuchangia katika Uhakiki wa Mswada wa Kamusi Elezi ambayo alikuwa amechangia kuiandika pamoja na waandishi wengine. Dkt. Makhulo anaelezea kuwa kabla ya profesa John Habwe kufariki, alikuwa ameuzelea hamu yake ya kuchangia katika fasihi ya Kiingereza kwa kuandika Riwaya. Kwayo, tayari profesa alikuwa ameanza utunzi wa kazi hiyo ambayo bado haijamalizika ila kupitia rafiki yake wa karibu Dkt. Makhulo aliahidi kuwa atatimiza malengo aliyokuwa nayo profesa.

Walimu, Wahadhiri, Waandishi, Wanahabari, Wanafunzi na Wakereketwa wa lugha ya Kiswahili wameungana kwa pamoja kutoa

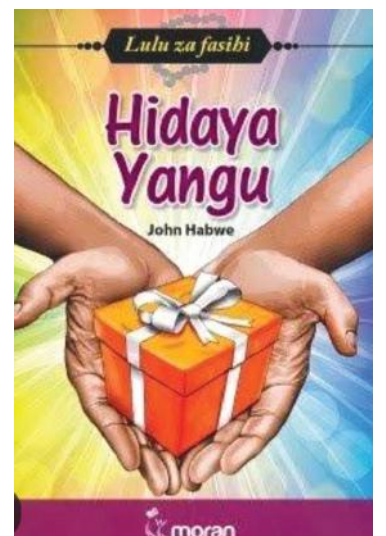
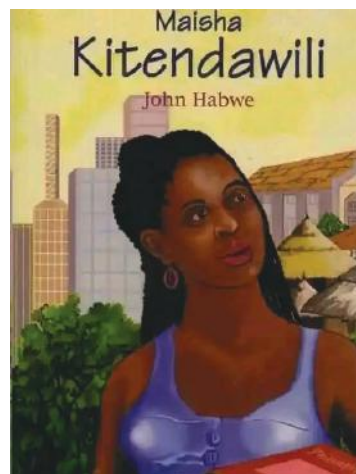
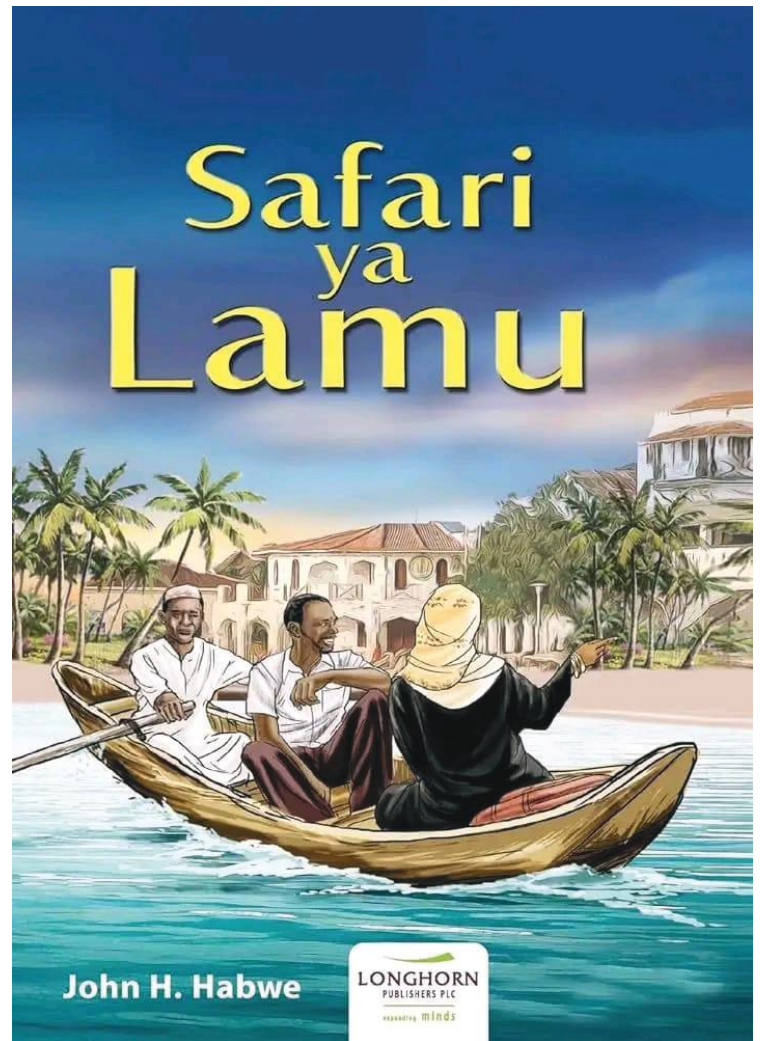
pole zao kwa familia na kutoa risala za rambirambi kumkumbuka profesa John Hamu Habwe, wengi wakimtaja kama msomi, mwalimu, mwandishi mwenye tajiriba pana, mwenye bidii, ashiki wa Kiswahili na mwanaharakati aliyekihangaikia Kiswahili kipindi cha uhai wake. Wakereketwa walikuwa na yafuatayo kumuhusu profesa mwenzake : “Pole kwa wakereketwa wa Kiswahili. Pengo hilo lililojitokeza si dogo hasa kumpoteza nguli ambaye alichangia zaidi katika vipindi vya Kiswahili enzi za awali huko KBC na sasa. Nawasihi waliobaki wachangie katika ulingo wa Kiswahili kama bado wana pumzi na afya.” Dkt Makhulo wa Makhulo.

“Profesa Habwe alikuwa msomi aliyebaleghe katika uandishi na mwerevu wa mambo. Mcheshi, mpwamu na mpole, mwajibikaji na mbaraza, mpenda elimu na mtafiti na mwenye tabia bulibuli.” -Timothy Omusikoyo Sumba.

“Hakika mauko ya Profesa John Hamu Habwe yamenitamausha ajabu. Namkumbuka profesa kupitia kazi yake ya Maisha Kitendawili. Anaangazia maisha ya chuoni na baada ya chuo. Kazi yake inaongeza wanazuoni tumaini kuwa kila kitu kitakuwa sawa baada ya kuhitimu bora tu mtu awe na hamu ya kupambana. Ni mojawapo ya kazi ambazo zilinitia motisha sana nikiwa chuoni. Mola ailaze roho yake pema peponi.” – Brian Oigara, Mtafiti na Mhariri.

“Kiswahili kimefiwa na nguli prof John Habwe ambaye alikuwa mhadhiri wa chuo kikuu cha Nairobi na mwandishi mwenye haiba na tajriba ya miaka mingi. Wino wake hautafutika kamwe. Moja ya baadhi ya vitabu vyake nilivyosoma ni Hidayu Yangu; mhusika Dena anatekelezwa na mamake akiwa mdogo, anapitia madhila na dhiki nyingi lakini hafi moyo kamwe wala kutamauka. Anajifunga masombo na kujikaza kisabuni hadi kufaulu maishani mwake. Alazwe pema peponi penye wema prof.” Raphael Mugi, Chuo kikuu cha Kiteknolojia cha Murang’a.

“Kwa miaka na mikaka hadithi ya mkimbizi imekita akilini. Nimesoma kazi zake za fasihi nami nimejifunza mengi sana.” Lilian Alividza Profesa atakumbukwa daima dawamu katika uandishi wa vitabu kama vile; Mshale wa Matumaini, Mikono ya Gondii, Kovu Moyoni, Maumbile si Huja, Hidayu Yangu, Maisha Kitendawili, Hadaa ya Nafsi, Safari ya Lamu, Sofia Mzimuni, Fumbo la Maisha miongoni mwa



kazi zingine nyingi za Kiswahili. Kwa yakini Kiswahili kimefiwa! Kiswahili kimepoteza mtu wa maana sana! Allah akuafu penye wema profesa John Habwe. Wasalaam.

# Scorched Lands, Scarred Souls; Mideast's Agonies Spotlighted On World Humanitarian Day

By: Xinhua

@themtkenyatimes

As the World Humanitarian Day was marked across countries on Tuesday, the Middle East and North Africa remain mired in some of the world's gravest crises, especially humanitarian ones.

Across Gaza, Sudan, Syria, Lebanon and Yemen, armed conflict rages on amid hunger, diseases and collapsing water systems. The daily struggles to survive, of finding food, getting medicine or drawing water, now carry the risk of death. The pattern is consistent: Where war persists, hunger and disease follow. Humanitarian relief supplies may slow the pace, but without the political will to end the fighting, such critical aid falls drastically short.

## Gaza: When Food Can Kill

Gaza demonstrates the crisis in its sharpest form. In the besieged coastal enclave, searching for food can be deadly. With international aid tightly restricted, residents face two risky options: lining up at distribution points run by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation backed by Israel and the United States, or rushing toward airdropped supplies. Both have led to deaths. "They lied to us," said Abu Mohammed. "They tell us to get food, but then the army kills us." He told Xinhua that his son died while trying to get flour. "He left early in the morning so that his children wouldn't go hungry. They killed him. This is non-justice."

Since late May, more than 1,800 people have been killed and over 13,000 wounded in or near the foundation sites in incidents involving Israeli forces, contractors, or armed groups, Gaza health officials say. Witnesses and medical workers call some locations "death traps." The Israeli military disputes the figures and denies targeting civilians. The Foundation says the worst violence happened outside its compounds and rejects claims about its operations. The aid group was set up as an alternative to United Nations channels and has faced criticism over unclear finances and alleged breaches of humanitarian standards. Its first executive director, Jake Wood, resigned weeks after it launched operations in Gaza, citing concerns over contradictions on "humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and indepen-

dence."

Under pressure to address hunger, Israel recently allowed foreign airdropped supplies into Gaza. Aid agencies say the airdrops were inefficient and dangerous. Pallets weighing up to one metric ton sparked chaotic scramblings, often among hundreds of people, including children, sometimes with fatal results. Aid through international organizations remains sharply limited. Relief groups say denials and delays have stalled their work. In July alone, they reported the Israeli blocking of more than 60 requests, causing food and medicine worth millions of U.S. dollars to be stuck in Jordan and Egypt. The starvation toll is rising. Health officials have reported more than 220 deaths linked to hunger. Since January, 340 children have been treated for acute malnutrition, with nearly 50 deaths, mostly under five.

## Raging Civil War

Beyond Gaza, the crises elsewhere in the region festered, but away from the spotlight. The UN calls the civil war in Sudan one of the worst humanitarian catastrophes of this century. More than two years of fighting have displaced millions and shattered basic services. In El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur, the siege by the Rapid Support Forces since May 2024 has cut off food and medical supplies for hundreds of thousands trapped, while hyperinflation wiped out savings and forced people to live on "umbaz" -- the residue from peanuts and sesame seeds after oil extraction, usually used as animal feed. "We're eating what even animals wouldn't touch in normal times," a resident said, as doctors report increasing cases of ulcers and bloody diarrhea linked to such diets. In Yemen, a brutal civil war is now in its second decade, and two-thirds of the poor Arab country's population -- more than 24 million people -- need help. Economic collapse, climate shocks, and restricted aid have exacerbated the urgency. Syria offers perhaps the starkest portrait of a conflict turned permanent. Since the civil war erupted in 2011, waves of violence have battered the country, prompting mass displacements with consequences that extend far beyond its borders -- from Lebanon and Türkiye to Europe. The UN reported that more than 14 million Syrians have been forced to flee their homes in search of safety since the war began. Of them, 7.4 million remain displaced inside Syria, where 70 percent of the population requires



humanitarian assistance and 90 percent live below the poverty line. More than 6 million others live as refugees in neighboring countries, including Türkiye, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, or farther abroad. Years of bombardment, economic isolation, and the destruction of infrastructure have gutted basic services. The slow relaxation of partial sanctions still does not make a recovery more likely.

## Man-Made Disasters, Political Roots

The UN has long emphasized that these disasters are not inevitable. Behind each emergency lies a more complicated truth: Political factors -- more than poverty or natural hazards -- are driving the region's humanitarian collapse. Analysts point to protracted wars, deliberate obstruction of aid, and above all, an erosion of the multilateral order by the United States and its unilateral actions as major forces that have stripped civilians of any safety net. "The United States has not only contributed to these crises but has actively created and sustained them," said Esmat Mansour, a political analyst based in

Ramallah. The United States spent 17.9 billion U.S. dollars in military aid to Israel from October 2023 to October 2024, according to the Costs of War Project at Brown University. In addition, it vetoed UN Security Council resolutions urging a ceasefire and an end to the blockade on Gaza. In July, Washington imposed sanctions on Palestinian Authority officials and members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, citing payments it said supported terrorism and efforts to bring the conflict to international courts. The U.S. move drew shrill criticism from the international community. "The biggest failure (of the United States) lies in the inability to bring about an end to the war in Gaza and initiate a political process for implementing the two-state solution alongside the rest of the international community," said Roe Kibrik, head of research at Mitvim, the Israeli Institute for Regional Foreign Policies.

Critics also contend that broad, unilateral sanctions have deepened the economic collapse in both Syria and Yemen. "The United States stands behind all the wars that prevail today in the world, particularly in the Middle East, whether directly or indirect-

ly," said Mazen Chendeb, an expert on international relations in Lebanon. Khalid Ahmed, a political scientist in Qatar, says that Washington's pursuit of regional dominance has undermined sovereignty and stability, and calls for "genuine multilateralism" in which states act as equal partners. World Humanitarian Day, observed annually on Aug. 19, honors the 22 humanitarian workers killed in the 2003 bombing of the UN headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq, including then UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, Sergio Vieira de Mello. More than two decades later, Iraq is still healing. Experts say breaking the cycle requires more than emergency relief. It demands politics that is independent, inclusive, and dedicated to ending wars rather than managing them. "The only way forward is to consolidate democracy and expand the role of people and youth in shaping their futures," Mansour said. "Peace can only be built when peoples are empowered to make decisions that serve their countries, not the agendas of others," Mansour added.

Sports >> \*Harambee Stars prospect Sammy Henia Kamau has signed a one-year deal with English Championship side Hull City.

## Harambee Stars Prospect Kamau Signs For English Side Hull City



Sammy Henia Kamau

Harambee Stars prospect Sammy Henia Kamau has signed a one-year deal with English Championship side Hull City.

The 19-year-old center forward will feature for the club's U21 team this season after securing a move to the championship side.

Kamau started his professional career at Swansea, where he played for the U18 side.

He then briefly joined Jersey Bulls before returning to the Welsh side Swansea, where he stayed until joining Hull City on a free transfer.

Kamau has signed a contract that runs until 30th June 2026.

"I just want to kick on, play as many games as I can, score goals, provide assists, and keep improving as a player," stated

Kamau after securing the move.

Kamau was born in England to a British mother and a Kenyan father, which makes him eligible to represent Kenya internationally and is considered to be an exciting prospect.

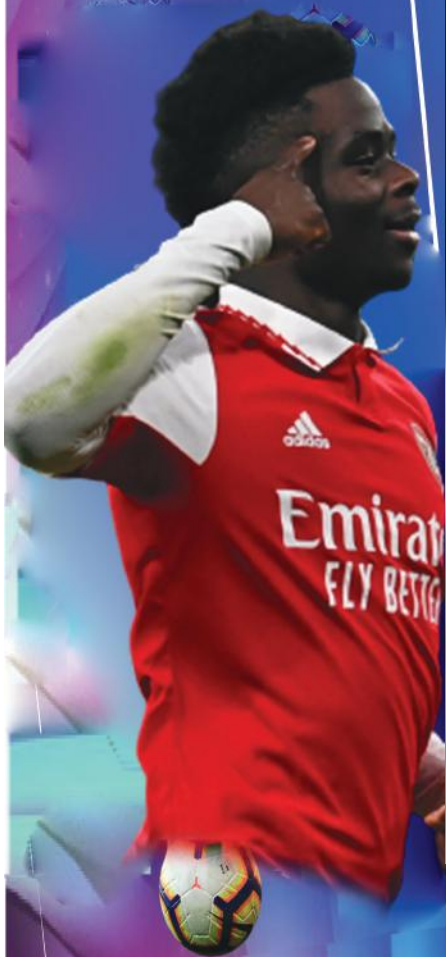
Kamau made his debut in the Domestic Youth Cup for Swansea at the age of 18 years and six months in a game where he

helped his team claim a 6-0 win.

*Citizen Sport*

# SPORTS NEWS

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# GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*Harambee Stars defender Sylvester Otieno says proper team work among the players and the technical bench has played a key role in the team reaching the quarter finals of the ongoing Africa Nations Championship

## CHAN: Harambee Stars Defender Otieno Attributes Fine Run To Teamwork



Harambee Stars players celebrate during their CHAN match against DR Congo at Moi Internationals Sports Centre Kasarani on August 3,2025 match ended 1-0.  
Photo/Sportpicha/Citizen Digital.

Harambee Stars defender Sylvester Otieno says proper team work among the players and the technical bench has played a key role in the team reaching the quarter finals of the ongoing Africa Nations Championship (CHAN).  
Despite finishing with ten men twice —against Morocco and Angola —the Benni McCarthy-coached Stars topped Group ‘A’ on ten points to book Madagascar in the quarters on Friday at Kasarani from 5PM.

“Without teamwork there is no way we will be where we are at the moment. We are friends with each other during good times and hard times and there is proper flow of information among the players and the technical bench. That is how we have managed to pull through,” said Otieno.  
“The government and the federation have been supporting the team so much before and during the tournament. So all I can say is for the private sector to also come

on board with the government and the federation for the growth of the game.”  
Once again dependable defender Otieno reiterated the importance of fans respecting the CAF regulations that they have set to avoid further sanctions from the continental governing body.  
“We urge the fans to continue following the the regulations set by CAF this will be a big boost for the country in the future opportunities so far as a team we are very

humbled by their support as we look forward to more in the coming games  
Kenya will take on Madagascar on Friday 5pm at the Moi International Sports Centre Kasarani.  
**Citizen Sport**

# SPORTS NEWS



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BREAKING NEWS



# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



The Mt Kenya Times



# The Unbreakable Spirit Of Renee Woodard



By: Anila Bukhari

@themkenyaintimes

Renee Woodard's life is a testament to the power of resilience, faith, and determination. Born into a large family as the youngest of six siblings, Renee's journey has been marked by trials and tribulations that would have broken a lesser person. Yet, through every challenge, she has emerged stronger, more compassionate, and more determined to make a difference in the world.

## Early Life and Struggles

Renee's early life was not without its difficulties. As a teenager, she dropped out of high school at seventeen, succumbing to the lure of fast money and the pitfalls of drug dealing and cocaine addiction. Incarceration became a wake-up call, forcing her to confront the harsh reality of her choices. This period of her life could have been the end, but instead, it became the catalyst for her redemption story.

## Redemption and Education

After more than two decades away from education, Renee returned with determination. In 2013, she earned her high school diploma from James H. Grove Adult Education, a significant milestone that marked the beginning of her journey towards self-improvement. She pressed forward, driven by a desire to make a difference in the lives of others. Renee went on to earn her Associate's Degree in Human Services and a Certificate in Drug and Alcohol Counseling from Delaware Technical College. Her academic pursuits did not stop there; she continued at Wilmington University, completing her Bachelor's Degree in Behavioral Science.

## Personal Life and Faith

Renee's personal life has been a source of strength and inspiration. She is a devoted mother to her twelve-year-old son, My'Keal, and the cherished wife of her first love, Arron Woodard. Their journey together is a testament to God's faithfulness and the power of love to endure through every trial. The loss of her parents in 2020 was a profound test of her strength, but Renee

emerged from that season of grief with a deeper understanding of her faith and a renewed commitment to her family.

## Tragedy and Triumph

Tragedy struck again in 2023 with the loss of her lifelong confidante. Though the grief was overwhelming, Renee found the strength to rise from the darkness, inspired by her loved one's unwavering spirit. Celebrating her second wedding anniversary with Arron on December 31, 2023, reminded her that love truly endures and triumphs through every trial.

## A Calling to Serve

Today, Renee is pursuing a Master's Degree in Applied Family Science, driven by a calling to serve as a beacon of hope for those who feel lost, broken, or forgotten. Her mission is simple yet profound: to help others rediscover their worth and find their path towards healing and wholeness. Through her work, Renee aims to honor the legacy of her parents and loved ones, living a life of service, compassion, and continual growth.

## A Legacy of Hope

Renee Woodard's story is one of hope and resilience. Despite facing numerous challenges, she has emerged as a testament to the power of faith and determination. Her journey is a reminder that our past does not define our future and that adversity can be a catalyst for growth. As she continues to pursue her calling, Renee inspires others to do the same, leaving a lasting legacy of hope and compassion.

In conclusion, Renee Woodard's biography is a powerful reminder of the human spirit's capacity for resilience, faith, and hope. Her journey, marked by trials and tribulations, serves as a testament to the power of determination and the importance of living a life of service and compassion. As she continues to pursue her calling, Renee Woodard inspires others to do the same, leaving a lasting legacy of hope and positivity.



## Worth Noting:

- Renee's personal life has been a source of strength and inspiration. She is a devoted mother to her twelve-year-old son, My'Keal, and the cherished wife of her first love, Arron Woodard. Their journey together is a testament to God's faithfulness and the power of love to endure through every trial. The loss of her parents in 2020 was a profound test of her strength, but Renee emerged from that season of grief with a deeper understanding of her faith and a renewed commitment to her family.
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